

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ABF-01 SS-15 MMS-04 /031 W

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R 171415Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1603

UNCLAS JIDDA 4389

FOR : WILLIAMSON FROM SWEDENBURG

E.O.: 11652: N/A

TAGS: AFSP, ABUD, USSAEC, SA, US

SUBJ: SHARED ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT PROVIDED FOR JOINT
COMMISSION ACTIVITIES

1. WE HAVE BEEN GIVEN CONSIDERABLE THOUGHT ON BEST WAY TO PROVIDE ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT FOR JOINT COMMISSION ACTIVITIES. ALTHOUGH USREP-JECCO WILL HAVE A SMALL NUCLEUS OF ADMINISTRATIVE PEOPLE IN RIYADH HANDLING LOGISTICS, THE EMBASSY WILL BE REQUIRED TO PROVIDE VARYING DEGREES OF SUPPORT TO EVERY STAFF MEMBER AND TECHNICIAN ASSIGNED TO SAUDI ARABIA UNDER JOINT COMMISSION AUSPICES.

2. WE ALSO CONSIDER THAT EMBASSY SHOULD PROVIDE TOTAL ACROSS-THE-BOARD ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT FOR TECHNICIANS AND ANY STAFF RESIDENT IN JIDDA. WE DO NOT WANT TO HAVE A PROLIFERATION OF ADMINISTRATIVE ORGANIZATIONS OF USG OPERATING IN JIDDA. THE EMBASSY IS WILLING TO PROVIDE FULL SUPPORT TO JOINT COMMISSION ACTIVITIES IN JIDDA. THE ONLY CAVEAT IS THAT THE EMBASSY BE REIMBURSED FOR THE SERVICES RENDERED.

3. ON BASIS OF THE FOREGOING, THE EMBASSY HAS ESTIMATED THAT \$5,000 PER TECHNICIAN AND STAFF MEMBER IS AN EQUITABLE AMOUNT TO COVER SAS SERVICES PROVIDED BY EMBASSY TO JOINT COMMISSION. JIDDA 4252, WHICH PROVIDES BUDGETARY COSTS FOR THE MANPOWER TRAINING PROJECT, INCLUDES THIS AMOUNT (\$5,000 X 38 EQUALS \$190,000) WITHIN THE OVERALL
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PERSONNEL COSTS OF \$14.8 MILLION (LINE ITEM ONE PARA E)

AND WAS AGREED TO BY TREASURY AND LABOR TEAMS.

4. IN RECENT CONVERSATION WITH LEWIS BOWDEN, I DISCUSSED THIS FIGURE AND INFORMED HIM THAT WE COULD TAKE ON FULL SUPPORT FOR JOINT COMMISSION ACTIVITIES IN JIDDA INCLUDING MEETER-GREETER FUNCTION, PROVIDING LOGISTICAL SUPPORT FOR THE 32 MANPOWER TRAINING TECHNICIANS STATIONED HERE (LABOR TEAM ENVISIONS ONE OR TWO COMPOUNDS HOUSING THIS GROUP), AS WELL AS ALL OTHER SERVICES REQUIRED, IF HE SO DESIRED. I STATED THAT OUR MOTOR POOL WOULD HAVE TO BE SUPPLEMENTED BY TWO VEHICLES FOR THE MEETER-GREETER FUNCTION. THESE CAN BE ACQUIRED LOCALLY. BOWDEN STATED THAT MONEY SHOULD NOT PROVE A PROBLEM.

5. BOWDEN LEFT WITH US A COPY OF THE BUREAU OF CENSUS STATISTICAL AND DATA-PROCESSING ASSISTANCE PROJECT ESTIMATE. THE OVERALL AMOUNT INCLUDED DOES NOT PROVIDE FOR THE SAS AMOUNT STIPULATED ABOVE. SINCE THE PROJECT INTENDS TO ASSIGN 20 TECHNICIANS TO SAUDI ARABIA, WE WOULD REQUIRE \$100,000 (\$5,000 X 20) AS REIMBURSEMENT FOR SAS SERVICES. FYI: CENSUS GOT OFF SCOT-FREE WITH THE SERVICES PROVIDED BY EMBASSY IN SUPPORT OF CENSUS EMPLOYEE WALLER WYNNE ALTHOUGH MANY HOURS OF AMERICAN AND LOCALS' TIME WERE SPENT IN HANDLING CLEARANCE OF HIS EFFECTS THROUGH CUSTOMS AND SHIPMENT TO RIYADH--NOT TO MENTION OTHER ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT PROVIDED THAT EMPLOYEE. WE SHALL NOT BE PROVIDING SUCH SERVICES GRATIS TO ANY AGENCY IN FUTURE. EITHER THE NORMAL SAS AMOUNT PER EMPLOYEE MUST BE MADE AVAILABLE OR SERVICES WILL NOT BE PROVIDED.

6. PLEASE ADVISE HOW THESE AMOUNTS CAN REVERT TO EMBASSY DIRECT US TO THAT WE CAN EMPLOY NECESSARY PERSONNEL UNDER CONTRACTUAL ARRANGEMENTS TO HANDLE THESE ADDITIONAL ADMINISTRATIVE RESPONSIBILITIES. FYI: IF THIS MONEY REVERTS TO THE CENTRAL BUDGET OFFICE IN STATE AS REIMBURSEABLE TRANSFER FROM TREASURY, I SHALL RECOMMEND THAT OTHER ALTERNATIVES BE SOUGHT TO PROVIDE SUPPORT TO JOINT COMMISSION ACTIVITIES. I DO NOT WISH TO BE PLACED IN THE EMBARRASSING POSITION OF HAVING THE AGENCIES AGREE UNCLASSIFIED

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TO PROVIDE THESE FUNDS ONLY TO FIND THAT THEY ARE NOT RECEIVING THEIR MONEY'S WORTH BECAUSE THE FUNDS HAVE NOT TRICKLED DOWN TO THE EMBASSY. THE AMOUNTS WE ARE AGREEING ON ARE INTENDED TO COVER THE ADDITIONAL COSTS INCURRED HERE, NOT IN WASHINGTON--AND I WANT TO BE ASSURED THAT THESE AMOUNTS WILL, IN FACT, BE GIVEN TO US. OTHERWISE, THIS PROPOSAL IS A NO-NO.

7. POSSIBLY EASIEST WAY TO HANDLE THIS FISCAL ARRANGEMENT, ALTHOUGH INNOVATIVE, IS FOR TREASURY TO AUTHORIZE EMBASSY TO EXPEND TRUST FUND CURRENCY UP TO AMOUNT AGREED UPON FOR LOCAL COSTS RELATED DIRECTLY AND EXCLUSIVELY IN SUPPORT OF JOINT COMMISSION ACTIVITIES. FOR MOST PART, THESE WILL BE PERSONNEL AND CONTRACTUAL COSTS, ALTHOUGH SOME MATERIALS AND EQUIPMENT WILL PROBABLY BE INCLUDED, PARTICULARLY AFTER COMPOUNDS MENTIONED (4) ABOVE ARE OCCUPIED AND BEING MAINTAINED BY US EITHER BY OUR OWN MAINTENANCE STAFF OR THROUGH CONTRACTUAL ARRANGEMENT. WE DO NOT ENVISION THAT ANY AMERICAN PERSONNEL COSTS WILL BE INCLUDED. ALL LOCAL TRAVEL PERFORMED ON BEHALF OF JOINT COMMISSION WILL ALSO BE FUNDED FROM THIS ACCOUNT. FISCAL REPORTING WILL BE SAME AS WE ARE NOW PROVIDING USREP-JECCO.

8. WE SHOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING YOUR EARLIEST VIEWS ON THIS PROPOSAL.

9. DEPARTMENT IS REQUESTED TO ARRANGE TELEX TRANSMISSION OF THIS MESSAGE TO USREP-RIYADH SO THAT BOWDEN ET AL. CAN PASS COMMENT.
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